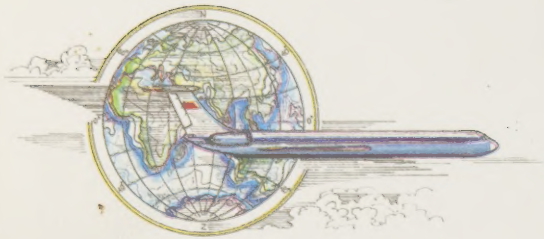
АВИА
PAR AVION



Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.,
501 North Broadway
St. Louis, Missouri, 63102
U.S.A.
США

Индекс предприятия связи	и адрес отправителя
425200	MASSR,

Medvedevo, Tereshkovoy,
16 – 36
M. Sitnikov
USSR

500

Пишите индекс предприятия связи места назначения

Kaunas, Lithuania.
Maxim Sitnikov, his brother Konstantin
and Kamile.
17 May, 1991.

Kaunas. Lithuania.
Maxim Sitnikov and Kamile, his Lithuanian girl-friend.
17 May, 1991

July, 1991

425200, MASSR,
Medvedevo, Tereshkovoy,
16 - 36
M. Sitnikov.

Dear Mr. Eric,

Have you received a letter from me with two notes (Kolchak's and Armenian ones) and a card for food? I am very anxious about the security of my sending.

This time I am sending you two pictures taken in Kaunas, in the ~~court~~ yard of the Churlyonis's Museum. Of course, the Soviet cameras are not so good as yours but one can see something in these pictures.

At the present I am compiling a Greek school for our private

school "The Blue Bird". The first copy will be very expensive: about 1500 roubles. It will be printed by ~~the~~ means of a lazer printer of an IBM computer. Of course, if I had my own computer ~~it~~ everything would be much easier. If I had money enough I am sure to get a good computer.

What are you doing now, in summer? Are there a lot of visitors at your Museum?

I hope to get some DM in September and some invitations from abroad. I wonder if railway and airplane tickets are expensive in the USA?

Greetings to Mrs. Evelyn!

Maxim.

III квартал

сентябрь 1991 г.

п. Медведево

ЗАКАЗ — ПТИЦА

3 July 1991

425200, MASSR,
Medvedevo, Tereshkovoy,
16 – 36
M. Sitnikov
USSR

Dear Mr. Eric!

Thank you very much for your interesting letter and the notes you have sent (though it is somewhat dangerous to send such things by the Soviet air-mail: they should be wrapped up in thick sheets of paper, else they may be stolen). Unfortunately, I have no duplicates of the notes mentioned but I am gladly sending them to you without thinking if they have any extra value. I hope, they will take their proper place at your museum. I think, I have more notes and coins which may be interesting for you. I have also books on Russian numismatics.

I was wondered learning that your professor of mathematics was Norbert Weiner. Is it the "father of cybernetics" himself? What other famous persons are you acquainted with? I read one book by Norbert Weiner and a lot of books about him. I am interested in cybernetics and dream to have a computer which is extremely necessary in my work. For example, I am compiling a Greek text-book for our experimental school now and it is awfully difficult without a computer. Besides I have some ideas on combining linguistics and cybernetics and using a computer in teaching of foreign languages. There were two subjects in which I was especially keen at school: languages and mathematics. That is why I long to acquire a computer. I translate

books for a German publishing house and they will pay me Marks for my work. If it is a sufficient sum I shall, first of all, visit America where I have some associates and buy the necessary things for myself. I think it is better thing than to be an asker. That is why I work 10-12 hours every day now. I cannot possibly enjoy my journey to America without my junior brother and we need to take two assistants with us. Thus I shall get some hard currency but there should be also an invitation from America. It is impossible to get a visa without such invitations. This is a problem.

Unfortunately or luckily, my medical case is common enough: this desease is not well-known and is incurable at the present. If one can do some official invitation there should be found some other ~~pretext~~ reason. For example, many western organisations of invalids invite Soviet invalids on a cultural, business or a vacational trips. We have a very interesting Youth Invalids Organization here with a lot of gifted persons. For example, Olga Pustovetova, ~~pair~~ our leader, paints holding the brush in her mouth (as the American Jerry), Tatyana Ishtrikova organized the first (and at the present the only) private school (for young authors), Nikolay Mikheev is a refined poet, ~~peer~~ his book was published recently. We plan to visit some country on a business and cultural trip (our delegation will consist of 10 persons: 5 invalids in wheelchairs and 5 assistants) but we need help though informational one: in making contacts with the corresponding organizations. But

Could you not also write me a few words about your museum and collection? And about your charming wife?

You know, there is another reason why I desire to visit America: I would like to learn more about your practical ways: how you work and how you rest, so that I could invent my only ways and make my country more happy: it lacks active persons.

Dear Mr. Eric, I send a very curious item for your collection. It is something more than if you sent me some dollars: it is my card for chicken. It is my month's portion of chicken. I saw people who lost their cards and cried bitterly. In a way cards (especially for vodka) are a harder currency than roubles. There are cards practically for all kinds of food: about 15. There are no cards for other things (electronics, furniture, clothes etc) and there are no such things. If you looked in ~~some~~ a shop in Lithuania you should know it is abundance for the central parts of Russia. And they say we shall have hunger as in 1921 this winter —

I wonder if books are very expensive in the USA? I lack some books which are necessary in my work: a good explanatory dictionary of English (more or less full one), an encyclopedia or a reference book where cultural, historical, linguistical american realities are reflected, a dictionary of Modern American variant of English and American slang

Greetings to Mrs. Evelyne!

Please, share my address with everybody who is interested in contacts with Russian people.

I am so sorry that I cannot send you the promised pictures this time: the Soviet services are so slow!

Sincerely yours,

Maxim

even if it is difficult for the inviting organization to receive 10 persons. I shall go with my brother because I am the only person in our organization who can speak English. In our turn we can invite American invalids to ourselves: they will have good time here.

You know, I read about the Mormons some curious and strange things. Are you acquainted with some of them? Could you not introduce one of them to me for correspondence?

Of course, the Finnish language is ~~very~~ useless in America but we live in the Mari Republic (the Finns are relatives to the Maris) and it is practical indeed to learn it. If I have a text-book on the Finnish language with a cassette I shall have no problems to study it. Besides there are some chances of visiting Finland —

But I am more interested in Japanese: a Japanese text-book for foreigners (in any European language), a Japanese-Russian (or English) and a Russian (or English)-Japanese dictionaries, some audio-cassettes. In perspective I shall need some original Japanese texts. You know, I am interested not only in the language itself but also in western methodics of the teaching of this specific language (I am a teacher, first of all!). It would be very good if your grandson helps me with these items. I wonder, what is his profession? And what are professions of your other children and grandchildren?

The list of books

1) A textbook of Japanese,
an English(Russian)-Japanese dictionary,
a Japanese-English(English) dictionary,
teaching cassettes on Japanese.

2) A textbook of Chinese,
an English (~~Chinese~~ Russian)-Chinese dictionary,
a Chinese-English(Russian) dictionary,
teaching cassettes on Chinese.

3) Books in English:
Suzuki D.T. Zen Buddhism,
Suzuki D.T. Zen and Japanese Buddhism,
Suzuki D.T. An Introduction to Zen Buddhism,
Suzuki D.T. Zen and Japanese Culture.

4) Books in Japanese:
Taysyo sinsyu daydzokyo,
Taysyo issaykyo.
Mikkyo daydziten, Tokyo, 1983
Nihon daydzokyo.

Day Nihon dzokyo,
Day Nihon dzokudzokyo,
Syova sinsan kokuyaku daydzokyo,
Kokuyaku issaykyo (indo sendzyutsubu)
Kokuyaku issaykyo (vakan sendzyutsubu)
Nanden daydzokyo,

5) A textbook of Finnish,
an English-Finnish dictionary,
a Finnish-English dictionary,
teaching cassettes oii Finnish.

Of course, it is possible to get only some of these books. The most imortant ones are No 2, then No 5, then No 3, then No 1 and only then No 4.

May 25, 1991

425200 MASSR,
Medvedevo, Tereshkovoy, 16-36
USSR
M. Sitnikov

Dear Mr. Eric and Mrs. Evelyn!

I hope you remember me. You met my brother Konstantin and me in Kaunas, on the 17th of May. We were in wheelchairs. I am so glad to make acquaintance with such pleasant people. Was your flight to America good?

First of all let me invite you to our beautiful republic. It is situated in the very center of Russia to the north-west from Kazan (150 km), not far from Gorki where A. Sakharov was in exile. It takes only 2 hours to reach Yoshkar-Ola from Moscow by plane and

17 hours by train (3 hours p.m — 8 hours a.m. next day). Yoshkar-Ola is the capital of the Mari Autonomous Republic (MASSR) and Medvedevo is its suburb (about 0,5 km from Yoshkar-Ola). The Mari's have the same roots as the Estonians, Hungarians and Finns. 'Yoshkar-Ola' translated from the Mari language means 'a red town'. It was founded in 1684 by a famous Russian Tsar Ivan the Terrible as a fortress against Kazan Tartars. We have wonderful nature here: dense forests with wild animals, mushrooms and berries, a lot of lakes, hills. Even foreign tourists come here to hunt but I do not like it. Oh, I quite forgot, the great Russian river Volga flows through our

Republic. You can have a magnificent rest on its banks.

As far as I am concerned I teach English and German at a secondary school and Greek and Latin at a high school. Languages are my hobby. I know a lot of them and translate books into Russian for a publishing house in Germany. I can study a foreign language very quickly if I am in its atmosphere (as it was in Latvia and Lithuania) But I strongly lack practice of spoken English that is why I long to visit America one day. I love travelling!

I managed to get a textbook of Hebrew and soon I shall be able to read the Old Testament in the original. But it is very difficult to get the necessary

books here: textbooks, dictionaries, professional literature. At the present I need textbooks on Sanskrit, Finnish, Japanese, and Introduction to the languages of the first inhabitants of the American continent (Indians).

If you are interested, Alexander Kolchak (1873-1920) was a famous Russian admiral, one of the main organizers and leaders of Counter-Revolution (against Bolshevism). He had the title of "the Supreme Governor of Russian State" in 1918-20; with the help of the Entente (England-France-USA) he installed his regime in Siberia, in the Ural and in the Far East (the most part of Russia). In 1920 he was defeated by the Red Army and shot. As "the Supreme Governor"

he emitted his own money. They are quite rare but I have Kolchak's 50 roubles emitted in Tomsk (it was his capital, Siberia).

My best regards to Mrs. Evelyn and all your children and their families. Please, write about your life in America. Perhaps you have some special questions; I shall try to answer all of them. Perhaps you want to have something from Russia?

Mr. Eric, I believe you are a person of some influence and perhaps you are in position to give me a peace of advice. I strongly need some things which are necessary in my work and everyday life and which can

help me realize my talent but it is impossible to get these things in the USSR because of the crisis. That means I should earn some amount of hard currency and get the necessary things from the West. Of course that German publishing house sends me some things (for example, a wheelchair, some food) but it is not enough. I wonder if it is possible to do the same work for an American publishing house or something like this? Is there possibility to earn some money and get the necessary things for a Russian invalid?

Vilnius. Petro ir Povilo bažnyčia (XVII a.)
Вильнюс. Костел Петра и Павла (XVII в.)
Vilnius. Church of St. Peter and St. Paul (17th century)
Vilnius. Peter- und Pauls-Kirche (17. Jh.)

D. MACKONIO nuotr.
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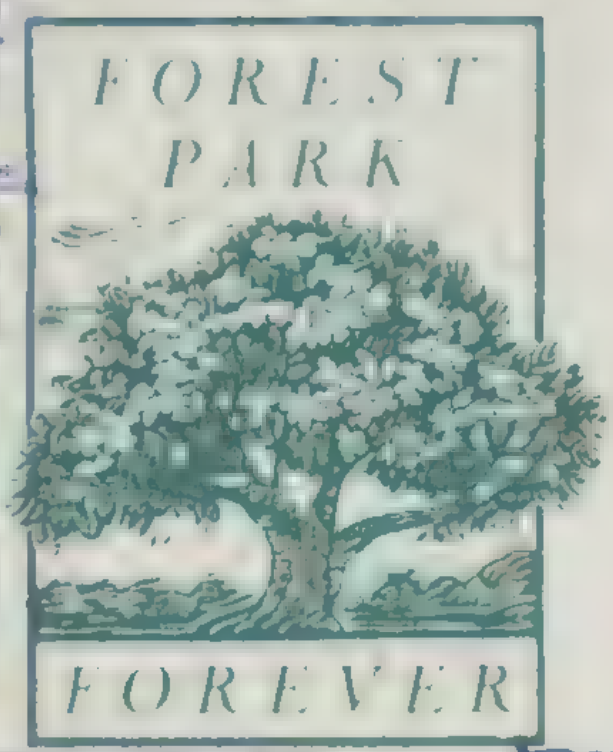
K. Požėlos sp. Užsak. 156
Tir. 140 000. LV 13368. K. 5 kp
M $\frac{80204-160}{M\ 851(10)\ 77}$ — 197—212—77



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Vilnius. Gorky Street
Vilnius. Gorki-Straße

Nuotr. A. Andrejevo ir D. Mackonio

„Mintis". Vilnius. 1976
K. Požėlos sp. Užs. Nr. 278

Вильнюс. Вид на город

Фото В. Корнюшина

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ОТПРАВЛЯТЬ ПО ПОЧТЕ ТОЛЬКО В КОНВЕРТЕ

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Maxim Sitnikov 17 June 1991
Tereshkovoy 16 - 36
Medvedevo
425200 MASSR
(Mari Autonomous Socialist Soviet Republic)
USSR

Dear Maxim:

We were delighted to receive your 25 May 1991 letter on 10 June 1991. We are still recovering from jet lag as we followed with quick visits to Leningrad, Gdansk, Prague, Dresden and Berlin after we left you.

You remind me of a mathematics professor I had at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who memorized languages in his spare time. His name was Norbert Weiner. My grandson has lived in Japan for a year and will work there beginning in July 1991. He can obtain Russian - Japanese dictionaries or anything you want in Japanese. There is a joke about the Finnish language - that the only people who learn Finnish are Finnish babies and Mormon missionaries (Mormon is an American religion which seeks converts there). If I obtain books and send them to you will there be any problem ?

I am having this letter mailed by a friend because he is going to USSR promptly.

My wife and I first visited the USSR in 1959 by driving our own car and met a museum scientist in Tiblisi and we have been sending him bird publications ever since. We went to Siberia a few years later, then in 1967 we drove through southern Russia. Everything has changed now. We are vacation travellers and try to see as much as we can of the interesting people of the world, just as you do. You are young but since you enjoy travel I am sure your difficulties will not stop you.

Thank you for the pictures of Wilnius. We look forward to the pictures of you and your brother.

Our family is a typical American family. In 1848 my German ancestors found conditions intolerable and came to St. Louis. My wife's family left Latvia about 1890 for similar reasons. In America we worked hard, got educated, and prospered. My father was a doctor, my mother a pianist, etc. I am a lawyer and an engineer, but my primary occupation now is doing numismatic research and running a numismatic museum. I was delighted that you are a numismatist and I will be glad to trade coins or paper money with you. I enclose some notes from the Philippine Islands, Argentina, Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Indonesia, Confederate States, etc. If you have an extra Alexander Kolchak note that would be wonderful,

but if it has extra value I will send you whatever is fair in scarce notes or coins. You said you had duplicate Armenian coins and I do not have any of these.

I have 2 children and 5 grandchildren. You are so young you will see your country change and your people adjust to more practical ways. No one has the answer as to how to have the most people enjoy life. We have a very free society and sometimes we think it is too uncontrolled. We are a mixed group of people from every part of the world and intermarriage has eliminated many ethnic problems. Yet our drug problem is terrible and the spread of AIDS frightening. We can always tell other countries what to do and what not to do, but we ourselves struggle to try to solve our own problems.

I will try to see what I can find in translation work for you, but most of that publishing is not done in this area. If there are specific items we can buy for you and send to you please let us have that information.

Are your medical histories interesting enough to the medical profession or unusual enough to have you brought over here for a visit or for treatment ?

Again it was a pleasure to meet a person like you at a museum full of devils. We have a picture of the two modern devils in the museum, Hitler and Stalin.

With best regards from Evelyn and myself to you, your brother and family.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

Eric P. Newman

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Maxim Sitnikov

country code → 42500 MASSR Province/Republic (Mari)

Medvedevo, Teresh Kovoy, ← district (neighborhood)

↙ Town 16 - 36 ← Address

USSR

seeking Pen-Pals. Math & Language Person.